

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

claims 1-4 (cancelled).

5. (New) A bale forming machine for baling agricultural crops of a type having a frame and a rotor operatively rotatably attached to said frame for moving a windrow of crop material into a baling chamber comprising:

a power train operatively connected to a portion of the bale forming machine that forms a bale in the baling chamber, said power train also being operatively attached to a rotor which moves a crop material toward the baling chamber;

a clutch selectively operatively attached to the power train and the rotor for selectively attaching or detaching said power train to said rotor;

a reversing mechanism operatively attached to said frame for selectively reversing the direction of rotation of said rotor between said first rotary direction and a second rotary direction for causing crop to move away from said baling chamber; and

an actuator operatively attached to said clutch and to said reversing mechanism for operating both (a) said clutch to selectively connect or disconnect the rotor from the power train and (b) said reversing mechanism to selectively reverse the rotor without disconnecting the power train from the portion of the bale forming machine that forms a bale in the baling chamber.

6. (New) A method of using a bale forming machine comprising:
using a power train on the bale forming machine to operate a part of a bale forming machine which forms a bale in a bale forming chamber to rotate a rotor during a normal operation of said bale forming machine for moving a crop into the bale forming chamber;
using an actuator to cause a clutch to detach said power train from said rotor if said bale forming machine becomes plugged with crop material without detaching the power train from that part of a bale forming machine which forms a bale in a bale forming chamber; and
also using said actuator to cause a reversing mechanism to reverse the rotary direction of said rotor to a second rotary direction to cause crop material to move away from said baling chamber.

7. (New) A method of using a bale forming machine of a type for baling agricultural crops having a frame and a rotor operatively rotatably attached to said frame for moving a windrow of crop material into a baling chamber and a power train to operate a part of the bale forming machine which forms a bale in the baling chamber and to provide power to rotate said rotor in a first rotary direction to move the crop material toward the baling chamber and a clutch selectively operatively attached to the power train for selectively attaching or detaching said power train to said rotor with an actuator, said method comprising:

using said actuator to cause said clutch to attach the power train to operate the bale forming machine to pick up a windrow of crop;

whenever said rotor becomes plugged with excess crop material, using said actuator to cause said clutch to disconnect the power train from that part of the bale forming apparatus which rotates the rotor without disconnecting the power train from that part of the bale forming machine which forms a bale in the baling chamber; and

using said actuator to reverse the direction of rotation of said rotor between said first rotary direction and a second rotary direction for causing crop to move away from said baling chamber.